

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 222825
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGRIC, GE

SUBJECT:GRAIN CONSULTATIONS

REFERENCE: (A) BERLIN 7213; (B) BERLIN 7022

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION WITH BEIL
(REF A), EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONVEY THE FOLLOWING TO
DR. SCHMIED OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUCH OTHER
OFFICIALS AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE.

2. THE USG CONFIRMS ITS INTEREST IN CONTINUATION OF
PERIODIC GRAIN CONSULTATIONS PURSUANT TO THE UNDERSTANDINGS
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CONCERNING GRAIN TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AS
DEVELOPED IN WASHINGTON IN NOVEMBER 1976. IN ORDER TO
FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THE INTENT EXPRESSED AT THAT TIME FOR
ALTERNATING THE GRAIN CONSULTATIONS PERIODICALLY BETWEEN
WASHINGTON AND BERLIN, USDA WOULD BE PREPARED TO SEND AN
APPROPRIATE DELEGATION TO BERLIN FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF
CONSULTATIONS.

3. SINCE THE APPROACHING CONCLUSION OF THE 1977 GRAIN CROP OUTTURN SITUATION FOR BOTH COUNTRIES OFFERS A LOGICAL TIME FOR USEFUL CONSULTATIONS, AND IN LINE WITH SIMILAR SUGGESTIONS ON TIMING MADE INFORMALLY BY GDR OFFICIALS IN WASH-

INGTON LAST JUNE, WE WOULD HOPE THAT A SUITABLE DATE MIGHT BE SOMETIME IN OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER.

4. TENTATIVE VIEW EXPRESSED BY GDR VISITORS LAST JUNE WAS THAT WHEN GRAIN CONSULTATIONS NEXT HELD, IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TO CONDUCT THEM AT A STEP LOWER THAN THE NOVEMBER 1976 MEETING WHICH WAS AT ASSISTANT SECRETARY/STATE SECRETARY LEVEL. THIS WOULD BE AGREEABLE, AND PERHAPS MORE PRACTICAL FROM STANDPOINT OF ENABLING FUTURE CONSULTATIONS TO OCCUR MORE REGULARLY IF THIS SHOULD BE DESIRED. IN ANY CASE, AT THE TIME WHEN GDR PUTS FORWARD SOME CHOICE OF POSSIBLE DATES, WE HOPE THEY MIGHT ALSO PLEASE INDICATE WHO WOULD BE LIKELY GDR SPOKESMAN.

5. FINALLY, AS HAS ALREADY BEEN CONVEYED TO GDR WE REGRET THAT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR DR. BEIL AND USDA COUNTERPART TO MEET ON THE OCCASION OF THE FORMER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON LAST JUNE, BUT WE LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE VALUABLE CONTACT AT HIS LEVEL WHENEVER FUTURE OCCASIONS ARISE. IN THE MEANTIME WE LOOK FORWARD TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTINUATION OF UNDERSTANDINGS AND CONSULTATIONS ON GRAIN.
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Message Attributes

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